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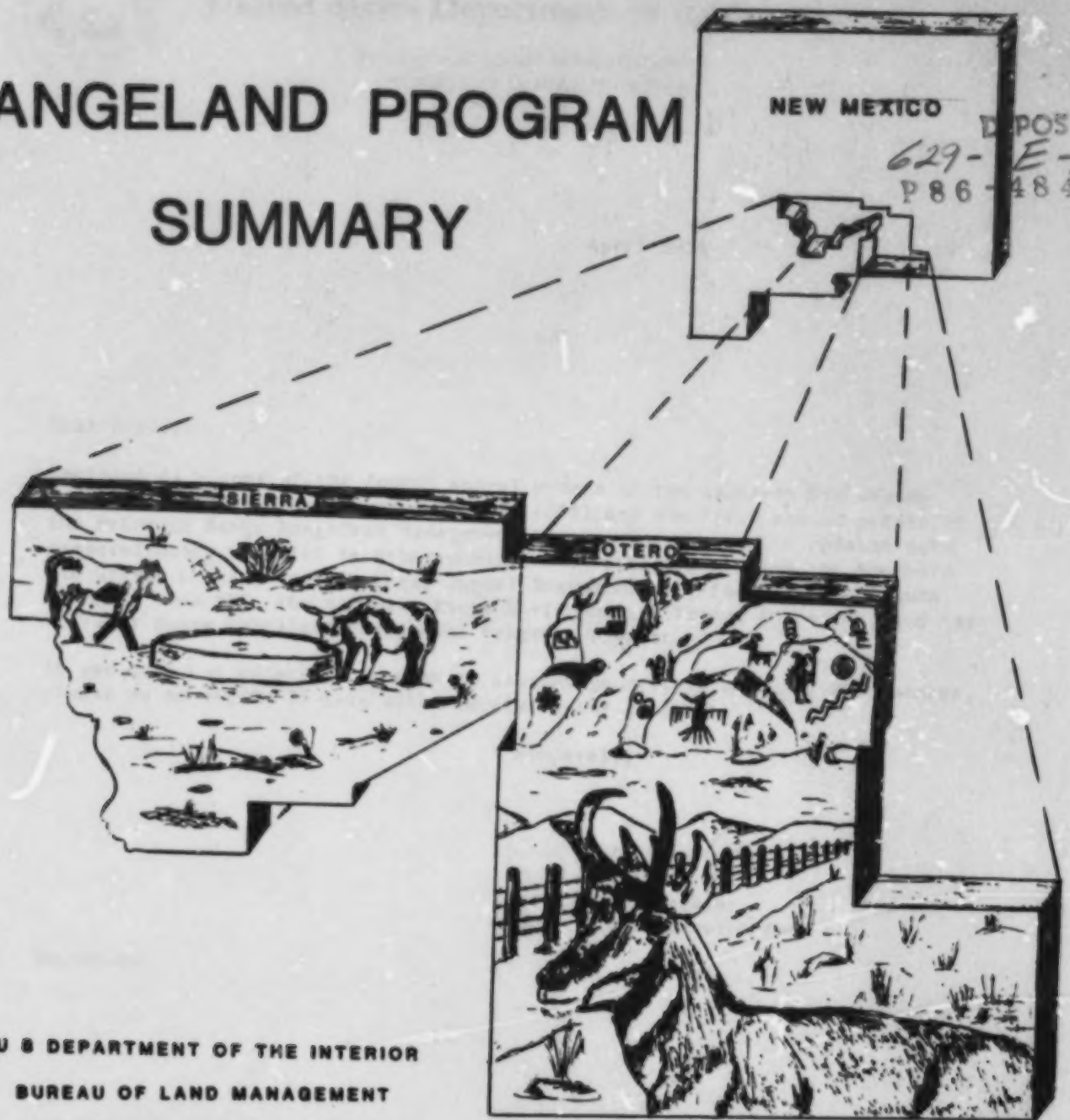
WHITE SANDS RESOURCE AREA

RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY



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U S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
LAS CRUCES DISTRICT OFFICE

ANNUAL UPDATE

APRIL 1986

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United States Department of the Interior

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
LAS CRUCES DISTRICT OFFICE
1800 Marquess St.
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005

April 1986

Dear Reader:

Enclosed is a copy of the fourth annual update of the Southern Rio Grande Planning Area Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) and the fifth annual update of the McGregor Range Rangeland Management Program Document. The updates were prepared using material in other published documents including the Southern Rio Grande Grazing Environmental Impact Statement, the Southern Rio Grande Planning Area RPS, the McGregor Range Environmental Impact Statement, and the McGregor Range Rangeland Management Program Document.

If you have any questions or wish to express your views on these RPS updates, please do so within 30 days after receiving the document.

Sincerely,

Willis M. Bird, Jr.

Willis M. Bird, Jr.
Acting Area Manager
White Sands Resource Area

Enclosure

SOUTHERN RIO GRANDE PLANNING AREA
RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY

FOURTH ANNUAL UPDATE

APRIL 1986

INTRODUCTION

The Southern Rio Grande Planning Area Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) was published in February 1982. The report is the fourth annual update of that document and summarizes the events which have taken place since the third annual update published in February 1985. The document is for the Sierra County portion of the Planning Area. Dona Ana and Luna Counties are included in the Las Cruces/Lordsburg Resource Area RPS Update.

The climatic conditions in 1985 were slightly less favorable compared to 1984. Precipitation was spotty, which produced variable forage conditions ranging from low fair to excellent.

DECISIONS

No decisions were issued in Fiscal Year 1985.

RANGELAND IMPROVEMENTS

The following 8100 projects were completed in 1985.

Rangeland Improvement	Allotment No.	BLM Funding	Rancher Contribution
1. Jacks Well	6050	$12,680	$4,681
2. Greenhorn Well	6048	4,068	4,000
3. Penasco Well	6080	18,324	3,000
4. Cain Pipeline	6019	18,932	Unknown
5. San Andres Cattleguards	6083	3,200	100
6. Prisor Pasture Brush Control	6022	103,542	200

These projects involved:

- 6.56 miles of pipeline
- 2 cattleguards
- 7 drinking troughs
- 5 storage tanks
- 6,363 acres of brush control

The following projects, which carried over from previous years, should be completed in 1986.

Rangeland Improvement	Allotment No.	8100 Funds
1. South Canyon Pipeline	6059	$11,563
2. South Canyon Spurs	6059	4,326
3. Mud Mountain Well & Pipeline	6041	11,000
4. China Pipeline	6080	14,000
5. Huerfano Pipeline	6080	18,000
6. Graham Prescribed Burn	6053	300
7. Johnson Prescribed Burn	6020	250

Proposed Projects for Fiscal Year 1986 include the following.

Rangeland Improvement	Allotment No.	8100 Funds
1. Palomas Brush Control	6041	$50,400
2. Willow Spring Well	6091	15,700
3. Pitchfork Well	6037	20,000
4. Torres Well No. 2	6102	20,000
5. Willow Springs Fence	6091	6,700
6. Buckhorn Well Storage	6017	14,000

The following projects were completed by permittees under section 4 permits.

Rangeland Improvement	Allotment No.
1. Wicks Gulch Fence	6086
2. Copper Trough II	6079
3. Malpais Pipeline	6017
4. Middle Trap and Corral	6020
5. Beard Pipeline	6020
6. Quintana Taps	6050
7. South Well	6056
8. Mare Pipeline	6017
9. Howe-Davis Fence	6019
10. Cain Fence	6022
11. North Flat Lake Well	6053
12. North Crispy pipeline	6083

MONITORING

Condition and trend photos were taken on 35 monitoring allotments and 8 Allotment Management Plans (AMPs). The plots were read on the AMP allotments. Forage utilization, precipitation, and actual use data were collected on the monitoring allotments.

Monitoring studies will continue on 43 Category "I" allotments. This will include precipitation, actual use, utilization, and condition and trend.

MULTIPLE-USE MANAGEMENT

Wildlife monitoring to date consists of five browse utilization transects on Caballo Mountain in Allotment 6018, Caballo Mountain Ranch. Monitoring studies are being developed for the Jornada del Muerto Habitat Management Plan (HMP) on pronghorn habitat in Allotments 6007, 6017, 6019, 6020, 6021, 6022, 6044, 6053, 6056, 6084, 6147, 3063, 3065, 3067, and 3068.

Wildlife projects completed for Fiscal Year 1985 included 3 wildlife water developments and associated 5-acre exclosures in support of the Jornada del Muerto HMP. Two were located on Allotment 6021 and one was located on Allotment 6044.

Projects proposed for Fiscal Year 1986 in support of the Jornada del Muerto HMP consist of 3 wildlife waters and exclosures to be located on Allotment 6020.

CATEGORY "I" ALLOTMENT SUMMARY

Allotment Number	Allotment Name or Permittee	Year Letter or Decision Issued 1st Year	3rd Year	Monitoring Studies[a/]	Condition and Trend Established	AMP Implementation	Preference (AUMs)	Adjustment from Preference (AUMs)
6002	Alamosa Land and Cattle	1984		X	1985		1044	
6004	Ernest Mahle	1984		X	1985		1260	
6012	Darwin Bourquet	1984		X	1985		252	
6017	Buckhorn Ranch	1982	1984	X	1983		3708	
6018*	Caballo Mountain Ranch	1984		X	1968	1967	2460	
6019	Leonard Cain	1984		X	1983		1900	
6020	Ben Cain	1982	1984	X	1983		8964	-492
6021*	Jack M. Cain Limited	1984		X	1970	1973	2772	
6022	Lewis Cain Limited	1982	1984	X	1983		5532	-540
6026	Harvey Chatfield	1984		X	1985		314	
6027	Alberto Chavez	1984		X	1985		408	
6037	Vernon Cunningham	1982	1984	X	1983		576	
6039	R. C. Woolf	1984		X	1985		348	
6041	Dan Datolla	1982	1984	X	1983		1716	-108
6042	Chavez Ranch	1984		X	1985		216	
6048	Donald R. Gordon	1984		X	1985		1104	
6049	Caballo Grazing Coop Assoc.	1984		X	1985		2435	
6050	Harvey Chatfield	1984		X	1985		1075	
6053	Neil O. Graham	1984		X	1985		6372	
6054	G. S. Greer	1984		X	1985		312	
6055	G. S. Greer	1984		X	1985		228	
6056	G. S. Greer	1984		X	1985		2532	
6059	C-N-H Cattle Company	1984		X	1983		1428	
6063	Howard Lee Holden	1984		X	1985		384	
6064	Velma Hopkins	1984		X	1985		516	
6066	Ellsworth E. Hubble	1984		X	1985		252	
6067	Jim Hurt	1982	1984	X	1983		2260	
6068	G. S. Greer	1984		X	1985		721	
6072*	Henry C. Meadow	1984		X	1973	1973	1248	
6074*	Walter Greeman	1984		X	1971	1973	2848	
6075	Jay Tucker	1982	1984	X	1983		441	
6079	G. S. Greer (Copper Flat)	1982	1984	X	1983		1039	-115

CATEGORY "I" ALLOTMENT SUMMARY
(concluded)

Allotment Number	Allotment Name or Permittee	Year Letter or Decision Issued 1st Year	Year Letter or Decision Issued 3rd Year	Monitoring Studies[a/]	Condition and Trend Established	AMP Implementation	Preference (AUMs)	Adjustment from Preference (AUMs)
6080	Reuben Pankey	1982	1984	X	1983		3072	
6081	RL & JR Pearson	1984		X	1985		588	
6083	Woolf and Walker	1984		X	1985		804	
6085	Enos J. Chapman	1984		X	1985		864	
6089*	Rio Grazing Association	1984		X	1969	1970	2904	
6094	Sedillo Community Allotment	1984		X	1985		492	
6110*	Edwin J. Ward	1984		X	1970	1974	2537	
6113	Dale Woolf	1984		X	1985		912	
6141	Bobby W. Muncy	1984		X	1985		444	
6147*	Rhea Howe	1984		X	1967	1970	552	
6149*	Rod Hille	1984		X	1967	1970	1392	

Notes: *Allotments with Allotment Management Plans (AMPs).
AUMs - Animal Unit Months.
[a/] Monitoring studies initiated includes actual use, precipitation, and utilization. Studies were initiated on AMP allotments at the time the plan was implemented.

McGREGOR RANGE
RANGELAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DOCUMENT

FIFTH ANNUAL UPDATE

APRIL 1986

INTRODUCTION

This is the fifth update of the McGregor Range Rangeland Management Program Document (RMPD), which the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Las Cruces District issued in January 1981.

The climatic conditions in 1985 were slightly less favorable compared to 1984. Precipitation was spotty, which produced variable forage conditions ranging from low fair to excellent. Livestock numbers and seasons of use are comparable to the previous year as indicated in Table 1.

CONSULTATION

Preference rights do not exist on McGregor Range, and all lands are Federally-owned; therefore, consultation was limited to the agencies involved. The Department of the Army (DOA), Fort Bliss, and the New Mexico State Livestock Board are consulted on a continuing basis as cooperation between these agencies and BLM is essential.

The annual McGregor Range Wildlife Coordination Meeting was held in July 1985. Representatives from DOA, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) and BLM were present to discuss coordination of the McGregor special deer and pronghorn hunts. The meeting resulted in an increase of licenses to accommodate an experiment conducted by the NMDGF on establishing allowable camping units within each designated campsite.

GRAZING USE

Stocking rates are determined on each unit prior to offering it for grazing. Any changes made were in accordance with the analysis of utilization data from the previous year based on actual use and precipitation, and adjustments made to reflect the increase or decrease in forage production resulting from precipitation received during the current growing season.

DECISION

There were no grazing decisions issued on the co-use area of McGregor Range.

MONITORING

Actual use data were obtained by BLM personnel counting cattle on and off each unit. Precipitation was recorded monthly from 15 rain gauges located throughout the grazed area, and results showed precipitation during the growing season to be spotty and intermittent. Some areas were very productive; others were not.

Utilization was determined on each unit. Results showed utilization to be light to moderate.

Condition and trend studies were conducted on scheduled units. Results show condition tied very closely with precipitation.

GRAZING SYSTEMS AND MANAGEMENT PLANS

As a result of fair to good moisture conditions, all units were scheduled to be grazed, with four of the units set for extended grazing periods (18 months). When the units were auctioned off, only seven of the ten available were bid on. The three units not bid on will rest for this grazing period.

RANGELAND IMPROVEMENTS AND LAND TREATMENTS

One contract was awarded for road maintenance this year, and approximately 123 miles of roads and 3,852 feet of turnouts were maintained.

The following improvements were completed by the maintenance crew.

1. Two cattleguards installed.
2. One storage tank installed.
3. One earth tank constructed.
4. Five miles of old fences were torn down and replaced with new fence. Included in this was one trap.
5. Two miles of pipelines were replaced.
6. Two earth tanks were cleaned out.

See Table 2 for progress on Implementation schedule.

Table 1

The following table shows the progression made on McGregor Range from 1967 to 1985

HISTORY OF GRAZING ON MCGREGOR RANGE

Year	Units Grazed	Acres Grazed	No. Cattle Grazed	AUMs Grazed	Average Bid Per AUM	Total Dollars
1967	18, 19	35,000	600	3,281	$1.42	$4,659.00
67-68	11, 14, 18, 19	67,000	800	7,068	2.05	14,471.00
68-69	1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19	180,000	2,900	27,070	1.99	53,925.00
69-70	1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20	246,000	4,150	43,350	1.83	79,401.00
70-71	1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20	246,000	4,400	39,600	2.05	81,337.00
71-72	1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20	246,000	5,100	44,400	2.07	90,147.00
72-73	1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16W 18, 19, 20	233,000	5,300	42,300	2.51	106,092.00
73-74	1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15W, 16, 18, 19, 20	226,000	5,400	42,600	3.41	144,981.00
74-75	1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16W 18, 19, 20	233,000	4,850	36,700	4.39	160,965.00
75-76	1, 10, 11, 12 13, 14, 15, 16S 18, 19, 20,	214,000	5,450	44,850	5.31	237,977.00
76-77	1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20	228,000	4,425	37,017	5.43	201,047.00
77-78	1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15W,16W 16S, 19, 20	209,000	4,025	34,020	3.81	119,132.00
78-79	1,3,5,7,9,10, 11,13,14,15,4, 12,*18 rested	229,000	4,775	38,330	4.73	187,305.00
79-80	1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10,11,12,13, 14, 15	227,00	4,916	44,250	5.38	238,258.00
80-81	4, 5, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15	108,000	3,877	23,263	6.53	151,973.00

Table 1 (concluded)

HISTORY OF GRAZING ON MCGREGOR RANGE

Year	Units Grazed	Acres Grazed	No. Cattle Grazed	AUMs Grazed	Average Bid Per AUM	Total Dollars
81-82	1,2,3*,4,5*,7* 8,9*,10,11* 12*,13*,14,15	271,000	5,575	58,950	4.38	245,971.00
82-83	1,2,4*,8, 10*,14*,15*	271,000	5,600	44,125	5.32	207,883.75
83-84	1,2,3,5,7, 8,9,11,12, 13	271,000	3,600	28,200	7.25	191,225.00
84-85	1,2,3,4, 5*,7* 8,9*,10,11,12 13*,14,15	271,000	4,300	43,650	8.11	349,980.00
85-86	1,2,3*,5,7,9, 10*,11*,12*,13 14	228,000	3,650	30,750	3.46	162,570.00
					Total To Date	3,029,299.75

* Indicates units were grazed 12 months during the year where shown and 6 months the following year.

Table 2

Showing Progress on Implementation Schedule

Major Items	1980 1981	81 82	82 83	83 84	84 85	85 86	86 87	87 88	88 89	89 90	90 91	91 92	92 93	
Development of AMP	x													Completed May 1981
Rangeland Improvements														
Replace 17.5 mi. pipeline				2.6	2									
Install 38.5 mi. pipeline				2										
Drill 19 wells														
Install 39 water troughs	4	2	1	3										
Install 39 storage tanks	3	1	1		1									
Build 5 dirt tanks					1									
Build 3 corrals			1											
Build 47 mi. road														
AUMs[a/]	23,263	58,950	44,125	28,200	43,650	30,750								To increase to 57,230
Implementation of Grazing management System		9 pastures	14 pastures	14 pastures	14 pastures	11								(271,000)
Windmill and Tower		1												
Earthen Tanks Cleaned		1	7	3	2									
Fence (Miles)	3	4	1	1	5									
Cattleguards	2		3	3	2									

Note: a/ Number of AUMs was changed from previous updates to reflect the year in which the actual grazing use occurred and not the total grazing allowed for those units with an eighteen-month grazing period.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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